

STOCKPORT COUNTY

NEWS & RECORDS 1981-82



FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP
1ST ROUND 2ND LEG

WIGAN ATHLETIC

Monday, 14th September (7.30 p.m.)
Season 1981-82

30p

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**STUART
SURRIDGE**



Jimmy McGuigan Column

Four goals was a most gratifying way for us to open the season at Edgeley Park and it was also most gratifying that everything we have tried to do in practise came right on the night.

In the opening game at Blackpool everything went splendidly in One Half of the field; but the situation was exactly reversed at Wigan when it was the Other Half that was O.K. But it all clicked against Aldershot and was a grand way to open our Home Programme.

Tonight we have to try to pull back a Three Goal Deficit against Wigan in the Second Leg of the League Cup. It is of course a most difficult task but one which we shall approach confidently and we will do all we can to stay in The Cup for the next round.

Unfortunately, we will have to make one change (you will appreciate that I am writing this before our match against Bury at the weekend) as Tommy Sword will have to miss tonight's match as a "Punishment" for being sent off in the First Leg Tie.

Nevertheless I feel we have adequate cover in that department and the result of course will be simply a question of what happens on the night.

I was pleased to see Tony Coyle get two goals against Aldershot for he has done extremely well in his slightly different forward role — although he had a couple of games in that position last season. I felt at Blackpool that he was trying to do too much, but a quiet



chat I had with him before the game at Aldershot had him appearing in the right places at the right times.

I still feel that it would be beneficial to add a player — or maybe two — to our present squad, but, of course, the right players are increasingly difficult to find.

We have quite an interesting week ahead of us with Peterborough United our visitors on Friday night and then the promotion favourites — Yes, Already, Sheffield United on Monday. Let's hope we can keep up the good work of last Friday on all these occasions.



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Stockport County Football Club

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Edgeley Notebook

compiled by Editor Howard Jones



LOTTERY AGENTS PRIZE DRAW

If you were present at our home game with Aldershot last week, you will have noticed myself and Andrea, our promotions assistant, making the Agents Draw at half-time. There were two lucky winners both of which have been notified, but to show you that fair play was done and seen to be done we made the draw in full view of you all. The first prize went to Mr. Pickford of 15 Worcester Road, Cheadle Hulme and 2nd prize to Mr. Bennett, 209 Garners Lane, Adswold. Remember if you would like to help County, make some money for yourself and be entered in our Agent's prize draw, then why not become an Agent TODAY! For further information ring 061-480 1666.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE REVIEW

As advertised below, there is a new publication on sale at the Bookstalls called 'Football League Review'. Having had a glance through it already I can vouch that it is a publication well worth the money. Most of it being in Full Colour, it gives you superb details of how and where to go to at all the 92 Football League Grounds and gives you superb diagrams and ticket information details. Really it's a must, especially for those of you who like to follow your side away from home.

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BRIAN'S LUCKY PAIR OF SHORTS!

Have you noticed that our Keeper Brian Lloyd isn't wearing the official club shorts? Well I set about asking Brian just why he seems to prefer what looks like a very old and shabby pair of shorts. 'Well boy-yo it's like this see', he told me in his native tongue. 'They are my Welsh International shorts and I regard them as being very lucky for me. But even though they do look a little worn they do stretch a lot more easily than the ordinary club shorts.' So now you all know why Brian's wearing those famous old black shorts.

EX-COUNTY CHAIRMEN A PLENTY!

Four existing and former Chairmen of the club have been to watch County's opening three games of the season. On a hot sunny afternoon at Blackpool, former Chairman Victor Bernard was there in person, sporting a fine tan. Not surprising really, as he lives just down the road from Bloomfield Road at Lytham St. Annes. However Mr. Bernard is shortly moving back nearer to our neck of the woods when he will be settling into his new home in nearby Prestbury. At Wigan in our second fixture there was of course Freddie Pye, the Wigan Chairman and at our home game with Aldershot County Director Dragon Lukic. Although absent on business from our opener at Edgeley Park, current Chairman Alan Kirk was present at Blackpool and Wigan. A great pity he missed County at their very best though.

TOMMY MAKES A PROMISE

Having missed his first Penalty take for County at Blackpool (see photo on page 10), big central defender Tommy Sword told me all about his error. 'Seems I didn't hit it as hard as I have the others' he told me. 'Perhaps next time I will really have a crack at it. Although I think perhaps that I might change my technique. One thing's for sure though, I will be getting in some practice at taking those all important kicks, during the next few weeks'.

EDGELEY PARK NOTICE BOARD

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
STOCKPORT COUNTY**

v

PETERBOROUGH UNITED

Friday, 18th September, 1981 Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
Featuring.....Robbie Cooke, Steve Massey, etc....

**KEEP THESE
TOKENS FOR
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ARRANGEMENTS**

1981		1982
No.	2	

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Wigan Athletic are the youngest Football League club, having been admitted to the Fourth Division in 1978 but, though their League performances since then have been outstanding — finishing sixth in their first two seasons and 11th last term — they have as yet to make their mark in the League Cup. Indeed, if they manage to hold the advantage they gained over us in the first-leg, they will equal a club record by appearing in the second round this season.

LARRY LLOYD, who was appointed player-manager during the latter part of last season, is bringing his influence to bear both on and off the field. Having had the advantage of playing under two of the game's great managers — **Bill Shankly** and **Brian Clough** — he is ambitious to prove just as successful and already his shrewdness in the transfer market has been in evidence.

During the summer he paid £25,000 for Tranmere winger **CLIVE EVANS** and another £15,000 for **GRAHAM BARROW** who had shown great potential in non-League football with Altrincham. He also signed **KEVIN SHELTON** and **LES BRADD** on free-transfers and acquired the services of **JOHN McMAHON** for a small fee.

Mr. Lloyd will continue to play in the middle of the Wigan defence where his height and experience will prove invaluable. After one season in Bristol Rovers' first-team he was transferred to Liverpool for £50,000 in 1969 and it was while he was at An-

field that he gained the first of his four England caps.

In 1974 he moved to Coventry for £240,000 but, when Nottingham Forest bought him two years later they parted with only £60,000. But it was at the City Ground that he enjoyed some of his greatest successes, winning two European Cup winners' medals, playing in two successful League Cup finals and picking up a League Championship medal.

Newcomer **Evans** is a winger with an eye for goal. Introduced to Tranmere's League team in 1977, he became their leading scorer in 1978/79. He scored nine times for Tranmere last season and was sharply off the mark for his new club with two goals in the opening half-hour of their 3-3 draw at Bradford City on the opening day of the season.

Barrow caught the eye of many clubs over the past two seasons as a member of the highly-successful Altrincham side in the Alliance Premier League. Mr. Lloyd ended speculation about his destination by getting his name on the dotted line for Wigan this summer.

Sheldon served his apprenticeship with Stoke City and made more than a dozen appearances in their League side. But he didn't manage to win a regular place and he hopes the move to Springfield Park this summer will enable him to enjoy a more regular game.

Bradd needs no introduction here, of course, for he spent the past three

seasons with us and hit 31 League goals, 10 of which last term. It was with Notts. County, the club he joined from Rotherham in 1967, that Les made his name, setting up a new club scoring record of 125 League goals before coming to Edgeley Park in 1978. Les opened his scoring account at Wigan with the third goal in their 3-3 opening day draw at Bradford City.

McMahon brings great experience to the defence. He was Preston's right-back for seven years, making more than 250 League appearances for North End before moving on to Crewe in 1979.

It will be seen, then, that the Wigan team shows considerable change from last season. But **MIKE QUINN** has survived in an attack that included the new signings **Barrow** and **Bradd** on the opening day. **PETER HOUGHTON**, one of the club's principal scorers since they came into the League, was the substitute.

Mike Quinn developed in the reserve teams at Springfield Park and scored on his League debut against Halifax in April 1980. He was a fairly consistent member of the side last season when he hit five goals.

Houghton joined the club from South Liverpool in 1977 when they were still in the Northern Premier League. He was their leading scorer in their opening two seasons in Division Four, claiming 14 in 1978/79 and 16 the following season. He wasn't always in the team last season when he scored eight times.

A rather surprising omission from the attack has been **TONY QUINN**, last season's leading marksman with 14 goals. He was on the books of both Everton and Liverpool as a youngster but then made his way to Wigan where, as a member of their reserve side, he was the leading scorer in the Lancashire League in 1979/80. Tony scored in his first five full League games two seasons ago and was top scorer last term.

The new midfield unit contained **ALEX CRIBLEY** plus new men **Sheldon** and **Evans**. Cribley spent his early days with Liverpool without getting the chance to play in the first-team. He finally left Anfield last October when he signed for Wigan and went straight into their senior side.

John McMahon, **Larry Lloyd**, **COLIN METHVEN** and **DAVID GLENN** formed the back four. Methven established himself in Scottish football with East Fife, holding down a first-team place for the four years before Wigan signed him for a club record £30,000.



County's John Rutter and Wigan's Peter Houghton pictured in action during the only other League Cup encounter between the sides at Edgeley Park, a game won 2-1 by County in August 1979.

Photograph courtesy Manchester Evening News

WIGAN ATHLETIC



WIGAN ATHLETIC F.C. — LINE-UP 1981-82

Back Row (left to right): Evans, Bradd, Davids, Barrow, Brown, Ward, Methven, Quinn, Houghton, Cribley. Front Row (left to right): Eyre (Asst. Manager), Sheldon, Wignall, Glenn, Lloyd (Player/Manager), McAdam, McMahon, Wright, Banks (Trainer/Coach).



fee in 1979. He has been operating in the middle of the defence since then and was ever-present last season.

Glenn has only recently completed his apprenticeship and he was introduced to League soccer at the beginning of last season, initially as substitute. He later re-appeared as a member of the midfield, though he opened this season at left-back.

JOHN BROWN and **BOB WARD** have been jockeying for the goalkeeping position for just over a year now but Brown opened this season in command. His experience goes back to the early 'sixties with Preston where he was for so long the loyal deputy to Alan Kelly. It was during that period of frustration that he came to Edgeley Park on loan in 1970/71 and made 26 appearances in our League eleven.

When he returned to Deepdale it was to take over the first-team place

FACT FILE ON

WIGAN ATHLETIC

FOUNDED: 1932

GROUND: Springfield Park

CHAIRMAN: Freddie Pye

MANAGER: Larry Lloyd

NICKNAME: Latics

80-81 TOP SCORER: Quinn, M. 15

MANAGERS SINCE WAR: 2

CAPTAIN OF CLUB: Colin

Methven

COLOURS: Blue and White

at last. But he returned to Edgeley Park on full transfer in 1975. He moved on to Wigan a year later and, after playing a couple of seasons in the Northern Premier League, he was delighted to get his unexpected return to League soccer when they were elected to the Fourth Division.

Ward played a few games in West Bromwich's first-team, and served Northampton on loan in 1976/77, before signing for Blackpool in 1977. Wigan signed him a couple of years later but he spent his first season with

them in the second team. Last season he made 25 League appearances.

We knocked Wigan out of the League Cup in the corresponding round two years ago when, after winning 2-1 here, we drew 0-0 at Springfield Park to go through on aggregate. The task facing us tonight is somewhat stiffer for Wigan built up an impressive 3-0 in the first half thanks to goals by Lloyd, Mike Quinn and Houghton. It is exceedingly rare for Larry Lloyd to score a goal — his last was for Nottingham Forest in a First Division game against Crystal Palace in May 1980.

Up until now Wigan's League Cup record has been unspectacular. They were beaten 2-3 on aggregate in round one in their debut season and then went out to us the following season. Last season they achieved their first League Cup victory, a rather lucky one. They ousted Crewe 4-3 on aggregate. They then lost 1-3 to Preston in round two.

If they hold on to knock us out tonight they will achieve only their second victory in a League Cup tie and equal their club record by appearing in round two.

COUNTY'S CUP RECORD AGAINST WIGAN ATHLETIC IS AS FOLLOWS:-

	P	W	D	L	F	A
HOME	2	2	0	0	4	2
AWAY	2	0	1	1	0	3
TOTAL	4	2	1	1	4	5

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LEN'S LINES



By Stockport
Express/Advertiser
Editor

LEN NOAD

You simply can't keep the Japanese out of our sporting scene. The Hi-fi manufacturers moved more purposefully into League football with the announcement that Arsenal and Ipswich Town have accepted sponsorships valued at approximately a million pounds over the next three seasons.

Arsenal's half-share will go towards a re-fit of their indoor training area while Ipswich anticipate that their share will go towards a new stand which, it is hoped, will be completed by the start of next season.

The big surprise, of course, is that Arsenal have finally succumbed to the temptation of accepting sponsorship. This most highly-regarded club drew an admittance from their chairman, Dennis Hill-Wood, that he had been against this as he felt it meant that the club would lose some of its identity but economics have, obviously, finally changed his mind.

It's interesting to note that Ipswich have decided that a new stand is better than spending 1.3 million pounds on a player. When one sees what that buys in the transfer market I can only say that this is a very shrewd observation.

There is, after all, something permanent about a stand whereas players can speedily get itchy feet! As their astute manager, Bobby Robson, so sagely remarks "Building a new stand is a gamble but spending that money on a player is an even bigger gamble." I could not agree more.

It is significant that two of our most sanely run clubs should put this money into permanent buildings rather than squander it in the current highly-inflated transfer market.

It is also a reflection of how deeply the Japanese have cut into our industrial life in such a short space of time.

But, as one who has had a Japanese car (a Colt Lancer) for three years, I can well understand their progress in this direction. I have never been so satisfied with my wheels than I have been during that period.

Presumably firms must think they get value for money from this form of sponsorship but as one who preferred my football the old way, although players many years ago were under-paid, I don't want to see sponsors names on jerseys . . . and knowing how long-standing supporters object strongly to clubs repeatedly changing their colours, I think that feeling is universal.

Liverpool to me are Liverpool and not "Hitachi" . . . Millwall should have the lion on their left breast just like they used to and County fans still, generally, don't like the present colours even if Argentina did win the World Cup similarly kitted out.

But sponsorship is here to stay. One must move with the times . . . but I still hope that somewhere along the line we start producing the Mannions, the Finneys, the Franklins, the Haggoods and, yes, the George Beasts. House full notes might then become soccer's newest "Sponsorship"!



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County



"Oh, yes, this club's got scouts everywhere."

FOURTH DIVISION TALK-IN

COUNTY DOWN BUT NOT OUT!

OK, so we are three goals in arrears from the first leg at Springfield Park. It's not the end of the world, indeed it's not even the end of our League Cup aspirations. However the facts are clear to us all, we need to beat Wigan Athletic tonight by four clear goals to progress into the next round. That's for sure. Just how Manager Jimmy McGuigan and the lads will go about the task we will have to wait and see, but we have certainly had a glimpse of just how well we can perform in our League clash with Aldershot here at Edgeley Park a week last Friday.

It has never been easy playing Wigan Athletic at Edgeley Park. They have just about the most impressive record here they could wish for. In League games that is. Let's make that quite clear, in League games only. Now tonight is League Cup night and in the only two previous Cup meetings between the sides at Edgeley Park we have come out on top both times by 2-1. That you will say, still won't be enough to put us into Round Two, which of course is true. But what it will do for the side is give them confidence. Which is very important if we are to have a good and successful League campaign in the Fourth Division. Indeed as we go to press, Wigan are lying in 18th place and we are 9th. Now we quite realise it's very much a case of early days yet, but it is after all quite heartening to be in this position.

Enough then about tonight's prospects, let us take a look at what happened two weeks ago as our fellow Fourth Division campaigners set about their tasks of reaching Round Two. In fact only two sides defeated opposition from a higher sphere. Namely Colchester United over Gillingham (2-0) and Tranmere Rovers over Burnley (4-2). Now having said that, just take a look at the current Fourth Division League table and see where Colchester and Tranmere are positioned in the League. Incredible isn't it? TOP and BOTTOM, 1st and 24th. So you see Cup football is a very different proposition altogether and one that can never be explained.

I think you can forget Bournemouth, Darlington, Halifax Town, Peterborough United and Torquay United who have all lost at home to higher graded opposition. The 2nd-legs of these ties look to have already been settled. There is of course hope for a great number of others, especially those that hold a lead from the first-legs. Here we have, Northampton Town over Hartlepool United (2-0), Sheffield United over York City (1-0), Bradford City over Blackpool (3-1) and of course Wigan Athletic over Stockport County (3-0). Other ties are locked in drawn games those being Aldershot v Wimbledon (0-0), Bury v Carlisle United (3-3), Scunthorpe United v Mansfield Town (0-0), Crewe Alexandra v Bristol Rovers (1-1) and Hereford United v Port Vale (1-1).

The highest attendance in the Football League Cup First Round First-leg ties came at Leeds Road, where Third Division Huddersfield Town beat Rochdale (3-1). The game was watched by a crowd of 6,713 and won mainly thanks to the efforts of ex-County striker Peter Fletcher with two well taken goals. Indeed Peter wasn't the only ex-County player to score in the round as Phil Henson netted Rotherham United's second goal in their 3-1 away win at Darlington.

Although it doesn't really affect the 4th Division, the most unusual happening of the round took place at Chester's Sealand Road, where the game had to be abandoned with the score standing at Chester 2 Plymouth Argyle 2, when one of the goals collapsed, Chester's

Steve Ludlam won't be too happy with the outcome as he scored both his side's goals and of course these will not now be recorded in the record books.

One thing to note before we settle back and watch tonight's encounter is that it is highly unlikely that Les Bradd our former Captain will be playing against us tonight. After scoring for Wigan Athletic on his League debut at Bradford City, Les lasted just 15 minutes when he left the field against County in the first-leg at Springfield Park with ligament trouble. There will no doubt be many disappointed fans who would have liked to see Les in action tonight, whether they be Wigan or County supporters.

THOSE WHO HAVE SCORED LEAGUE CUP GOALS FOR THEIR EXISTING SIDES IN PREVIOUS SEASONS!

Stockport County

Terry Park (v Manchester United 30.8.78) away; Steve Sherlock (v Wigan Athletic 11.8.79) home; Tommy Sword (v Chester 9.8.80) away; Dave Sunley (v Chester 11.8.80) home; Dave Sunley (v Sunderland 27.8.80) home; Dave Sunley (v Sunderland 3.9.80) away; Tommy Sword (v Sunderland 3.9.80) away.

Total: 7 goals.

Wigan Athletic

Peter Houghton (v Stockport County 11.8.79) away; Jeff Wright (v Preston North End 3.9.80) home; Larry Lloyd (v Stockport County 31.8.81) home; Mike Quinn (v Stockport County 31.8.81) home; Peter Houghton (v Stockport County 31.8.81) home.

Total: 5 goals.



HOW WE STAND

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Colchester	22	2	0	0	4	1	6
York City	22	2	0	0	4	1	6
Bournemouth	22	2	0	0	3	0	4
Hereford	22	1	1	0	0	2	4
Blackpool	22	1	1	0	3	1	4
Sheffield United	22	1	1	0	3	2	4
Peterborough	22	1	0	0	2	1	4
Torquay United	22	1	0	0	0	1	3
STOCKPORT	22	1	0	1	4	4	3
Bury	22	1	0	1	3	3	3
Hull	22	1	0	1	2	3	3
Rochdale	22	1	0	1	2	4	3
Scunthorpe	22	0	2	0	1	2	2
Darlington	22	0	2	0	1	1	2
Halifax	22	0	2	0	1	1	2
Port Vale	22	0	2	0	1	1	2
Bradford	22	0	1	1	4	5	1
Wigan Athletic	22	0	1	1	3	4	1
Northampton	22	0	1	1	2	2	1
Aldershot	22	0	1	1	2	2	1
Crewe Alexandra	22	0	0	1	0	2	0
Mansfield	22	0	0	2	0	2	0
Hartlepool	22	0	0	2	0	2	0
Tranmere Rovers	22	0	0	2	0	2	0

Manchester United

Will the Glory Days soon return?

asks Derek Henderson

'There's Only One United' was the title of Geoffrey Green's superb official history of Manchester United, and one calculated to make supporters of a few other Uniteds around the land — Newcastle, Leeds and Peterborough for a start — twitch their nostrils.

The sentiment is understandable, but does it ring true at the present time? Every club has its ups and downs, and the glory that once seemed to be ever-present in and around Old Trafford, has been strangely absent of late.

This is why the United board, headed by Martin Edwards — the man who took over the chairmanship when his father Louis tragically died last season — reacted to fans' criticism and duly despatched Dave Sexton.

Cynics suggested that Sexton had been sent to Coventry but joking aside, many in and out of the game were saddened to see the scrupulously honest and likeable Sexton lose his job because of the baying of the Stratford End hordes, and the apparent pressure under which they placed the United board.

There was talk of spectator-power and directors giving in to the terraces. Reprehensible or not, the shuffle at Old Trafford these past months has resulted in a new face — that of Ron Atkinson, the equally likeable man who has advanced West Bromwich Albion's fortunes in the last few years — taking over the seat which few would ever turn down, given the chance.

Atkinson is as flash and sophisticated as Sexton is unobtrusive and rather shy. The new man will never be far away from the limelight, whereas Sexton tried to avoid it.

I suppose that any manager of Manchester United can hardly avoid the spotlight by the very nature of the job, and this will obviously suit a United board which feels that a season in which nothing is won, or the European boat is missed, is nothing short of a disaster.

This means immediate pressure on Atkinson, but he is not the type to lose sleep over it, for he can look back over his shoulder at a good track record at The Hawthorns where he fashioned a side where no fewer than seven



International colleague Martin Buchan

Albion post, there were those who had grave misgivings as to whether this was not an appointment likely to rebound on Bert Millichip and his Albion board.

Atkinson has silenced those doubters, and is unquestionably one of the best in the business. Now he has charge at one of the world's most famous clubs with the sole aim of proving that Geoffrey Green's title is one that will not lightly be relinquished.

What it also means for the city of Manchester — and this is something of a private affair compared with the interest of the nation at large — is that John Bond, the extrovert in control a short distance away at Manchester City, now has a rival for the headlines and TV space. It could be a season of Bond v Atkinson as much as United v City!

However, it is a sobering thought for Atkinson to begin his new task, to realise that United finished in eighth place last season — and this was sufficient to cost his predecessor his job.

On that sort of premise, the managerial merry-go-round in Britain, which is as busy as ever, would be circling at breakneck speed if it were applied throughout the League ladder.

Happily that is not the case, and there have been heartening signs recently that relegation is no longer an inevitable recipe for the sack.

Curiously, when United were relegated to Division II not so long ago, Tommy Docherty, the then manager, was allowed to keep going and responded by steering the team to an FA Cup win at Wembley.

United are more likely to achieve that sort of triumph in the immediate future than to grab the truest prize of all — the League title. But Atkinson should not be underestimated — he could produce a championship challenging side sooner than people imagine.

They set their targets high at Old Trafford and with the action about to begin all over again, the somewhat unsavoury element surrounding Sexton's dismissal will soon be lost in the mists of time as he starts a new challenge at Highfield Road.

In the meantime, the people who clamoured for his head should be satisfied and give Atkinson a chance to give them what they want. The problem is that patience was never the virtue of the mob.....



Scottish International Gordon McQueen

received England Under-21 honours, and produced Bryan Robson, the best England player of his type since Bobby Moore.

It seems hard now to accept the fact that when Atkinson was called up from Cambridge United to take over the

What's on Motson?



In his first exclusive World Cup article, BBC commentator John Motson explained how the competition started, and how the host nations, Uruguay and Italy, won the first two tournaments. But those two countries went on to show that home advantage was no guarantee of success.....

The War intervenes — then the British relent

Europe was on the brink of war when France staged the third World Cup in 1938. The starters included unlikely teams from Cuba and the Dutch East Indies, the absentees such illustrious names as Uruguay and Argentina, who both refused to come, Austria, whose best players had been snatched by the invading Germans, and England, who continued to bury their heads in a prolonged argument with FIFA.

Thus Italy, who had won emotionally in Rome four years earlier, retained their crown. Although they needed extra time to beat Norway in the first round, the Italians put paid to their French hosts with a 3-1 win, thus breaking the monopoly the home nation had so far enjoyed in the World Cup.

The semi-final pairings in a competition again played on a straight knock-out basis, were a sign of things to come in World football. Italy's opponents were Brazil, whose black players were beginning to emerge now that slavery had been slackened; while Hungary, who would dominate European football soon after the war, found themselves up against Sweden, a country who would exceed their own expectations in both Olympics and World Cups.

In Paris, the Hungarians won 5-1 to reach the final for the first time. In Marseilles, Italy squeezed past Brazil 2-1 thanks to a penalty from their captain, Giuseppe Meazza. Later, on his death in 1979, the San Siro Stadium in Milan would be re-named after him.

It was said that Meazza wept when Italy retained the trophy by beating Hungary 4-2 in the final. Certainly he



BBC's John Motson

INSIDE STORY

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played his part, scoring two of the goals, but some of the tears might have been shed for the World Cup itself. Because Europe was now engulfed in a battle far beyond football, and the tournament had to be suspended.

By the time football was restored to normality after the war, Brazil were keen to stage the fourth World Cup. The year was 1950, and at last the British were persuaded to compete. The rift between the Home Associations and FIFA had been healed, although the Home International Championship was, on British insistence, nominated as a World Cup qualifying group for two teams.

With Wales and Northern Ireland the poor relations, England and Scotland finished first and second. The final match was played at Hampden Park where England beat Scotland 1-nil, after which the Scots stubbornly refused to go to Brazil because they were not champions.

It was the first of several incoherent episodes in Scotland's chequered World Cup history, but what happened in Brazil in their absence was no consolation to England.

The team was managed by Walter Winterbottom, but he did not have the final say in team selection. He was answerable to the unwieldy international selection committee of the Football Association, who would play a part in England's downfall.

First though, England beat Chile 2-0 in the breathtaking Maracana Stadium in Rio. With its capacity of 200,000 this was, and still is, the biggest football ground in the world. Stan Mortensen and Wilf Mannion were England's scorers, while the legendary Stanley Matthews was not selected.

For their second match, England moved to the mountainous area of Belo Horizonte. The little party of travelling pressmen, numbering no more than eight, made the journey by train. Frank Butler, who was still covering the 1981 England tour as sports editor of the *News of the World*, recalls it took 17 hours simply because it never occurred to any of them to take an aeroplane.

Winterbottom wanted to play Matthews against the United States, a team of part timers and willing amateurs who went into the match believing they would lose by several goals. But Arthur Drewry, the senior man on the selection committee, left Matthews in the stand, and although an England team including Tom Finney, Alf Ramsey and Billy Wright should have comfortably taken care of the Americans, they lost by a freak goal.

Had the match happened in the age of television, one shudders to think of the inequities that would have been conducted. But people at home were only just getting

used to the idea that there was a World Cup, and only when the Hungarians came to Wembley three years later would the myth of England's infallibility be finally shattered.

England moved back to Rio, put Matthews and Jackie Milburn back into the team, but still lost 1-0 to Spain. The 1950 World Cup was played on the group system, and two points out of six meant that England were eliminated.

The winners of the four groups, Brazil, Uruguay, Spain and Sweden, now went into a final "pool", where they all played each other and the country with the most points were the winners of the World Cup. Thus there was no actual "final", although the last match did settle the argument.

The position was that Brazil, having thrashed Spain 6-1 and Sweden 7-1, came to their final game against Uruguay with four points and a towering goal average. Uruguay had only drawn with Spain, so they had three points to Brazil's four.

Thus Brazil needed only a draw to win the World Cup, and when they took the lead two minutes after half-time, the rest seemed a formality. But Uruguay, winners in 1930 and absent from the World Cup since, staged a thrilling recovery. They replied with two goals, and their victory gave them five points to Brazil's four.

That 1950 final was refereed by an Englishman, George Reader, the chairman of Southampton until his death two years ago. It was a memorable match, watched by a world record crowd of nearly 200,000 — a figure that may never be equalled.

Thus the World Cup had now been staged four times, but had produced only two winners. Uruguay were champions on their only two appearances, while Italy, winners in 1934 and 1938, had no hope in 1950 after their team had been wiped out in the dreadful Superga air crash in Turin a year earlier.

If the competition was to enjoy a democratic popularity, a new force was needed in world football. By the time of the fifth World Cup in 1954, such a team had arrived.



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Phil Neal— Had the Last Laugh

By Derek Henderson

On the morning of the match against Hungary at the Nap Stadium, Budapest, one of the leading Hungarian sports magazines splashed across its front page its commentary on the state of English international football.

It portrayed an English player on crutches, symbolising the depths of which we had sunk, and the unlucky man whose face they chose in the circumstances was that of Phil Neal.

Needless to say, a few hours later, Neal — and the rest of the England team — had the last laugh and the magazine's producers were left with a bit of ghoulish on their faces.

It was a rather premature caricature, to say the least, and coming as it did, only a few hours before the match, it served only to make Neal and the other Greenwood men more grimly intent than ever to determine that this was where the rot stopped.

It wasn't the first time in the weeks towards the end of the season that Neal — as a member of that Liverpool squad which seems to go on from success to success — had cause to reflect upon a derogatory sentiment made on behalf of the opposition.

The previous time, Karl Breitner — a member of the celebrated Bayern Munich squad — shot his mouth off after the drawn European Cup semi-final tie at Anfield.

Liverpool were a spent force, he inferred. If manager Bob Paisley was wondering what to do to 'psyche' up his team for the second leg in Munich, Breitner's comments made that unnecessary. Liverpool quietly seethed and then proceeded to put Bayern (and Breitner) firmly in their place.

Neal and the others had conquered another mountain. And what a time the tall, commanding right-back can reflect upon since he went to Anfield from humble Northampton Town where he chalked up something approaching 200 League appearances.

Now he gets closer and closer to the 300 mark for Liverpool, and during those two spells he has also weighed in with around 80 goals, some of them from the penalty spot.

The spot-kick which he will probably remember more vividly than any other, was the one in Rome where Liverpool first won the European Cup in 1977 beating Borussia Mönchengladbach in the final.

With Liverpool leading 2-1, Keegan surged into the Germans' penalty area only to be brought down from behind by that excellent international defender Bertie Vogts.

It fell to Neal to convert the kick, and what thoughts must have raced through his mind as he placed the ball on the spot. Score, and the Cup would virtually be Liverpool's — miss, and he may well live to rue the mistake for the rest of his playing days.

But like most Neal penalties, it whizzed straight and true, leaving goalkeeper Kneib powerless.

Neal has his critics who say that he is fortunate to have gained as many as 30-plus England caps. But they forget that an essential part of Neal's make-up is his understanding with fellow Liverpool players Ray Clemence and Phil Thompson around him in defence, and this club cohesion has so often stood them all in good stead while wearing England colours.

Neal is sometimes recalled for a fatal error in 'selling' himself to the Italian winger in the European championships' vital game in the summer of '80 — which resulted in the only goal of the match and England's virtual exit.

More fair would be to mention his many dependable performances for his country and countless in the red of Liverpool.



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Worldwide with John King



The draw for the First Round of the European Cup has given England's two representatives a comfortable passage to the next round, but has not been so kind to Scotland's representatives Celtic who face Italian Champions Juventus complete with Liam Brady. It's just the sort of challenge the Parkhead side could have done without so early in the season, and could well prove to be too much for them.

For Aston Villa and Liverpool, however, the picture was very much brighter, Villa — in the Champions Cup for the first time — found themselves paired with Iceland's champions Valur Reykjavik, a task which shouldn't prove too difficult, whilst Liverpool came up against Finland's Oulun Palloseura for the second year running. Considering that the reigning European Champions handed the hapless Finns an 11-2 aggregate beating last time, they should feel more than a little confident of keeping their crown intact as they move into the second round.

Northern Ireland's representatives Glentoran could well join the two English clubs by disposing of Nidercorn of Luxembourg, whilst Athlone Town of Eire, making their first tentative steps into Europe, could give Denmark's KB Copenhagen a run for their money.

A look at the complete line-up for this year's competition would suggest that the latter stages should prove to be very much the mixture as before with the possible exception of Villa and Holland's AZ Alkmaar. Like Villa, AZ are also in the competition for the first time having won their first ever championship last season.....and how! They led the championship from the off and ramped home long before the end of the season to win by a mile.

AZ also found time to qualify for a European Final, when they met Ipswich Town in the final of the UEFA Cup. As I'm sure all English fans will remember only too well Ipswich took a comfortable 3-0 home win to Alkmaar for their second leg match, but AZ made them fight all the way to an aggregate 5-4 win.

Aston Villa and AZ Alkmaar apart, the main challenge for Liverpool's crown must surely come from the experienced, established clubs such as West Germany's Bayern Munich. Bayern enjoyed a hat-trick of European Cup titles between 1974 and 1976, and are back yet again to mount a strong challenge.

West German football has been dominated over the past decade by two clubs, Bayern and Borussia Moenchengladbach who between them have won the Bundesliga eleven times in the last thirteen years. With Bayern Munich in the Champions' Cup and Borussia Moenchengladbach in the UEFA Cup, the Germans will, as always, mount a strong challenge.

The other leading contenders in the European Champions Cup will probably be St. Etienne of France — who face a tough Preliminary Round draw against Dynamo Berlin — Dynamo Kiev of Russia, Anderlecht of Belgium and Spain's Real Sociedad, another club who enjoyed their first ever championship win last season.

The Eastern European sides provide a second group who are probably not good enough to win the trophy but are never easy to beat. Widzew Lodz (Poland), Ferencvaros (Hungary), Banik Ostrava (Czechoslovakia), Red Star (Yugoslavia) and CSKA Sofia (Bulgaria) all come into this group, along with FC Zurich (Switzerland), Benfica (Portugal) and Austria Vienna (Austria) from the West.

The rest, for the most part, are 'also rans'.

So where do we look for a winner? For my money it has to be one of five: Liverpool, Bayern Munich, Juventus, Dynamo Kiev or Aston Villa. But, as always, time will probably prove me hopelessly wrong.

For the record the full European Champions Cup draw is as follows:-

PRELIMINARY ROUND

ST. ETIENNE (France) v DYNAMO BERLIN (East Germany)

FIRST ROUND

WIDZEW LODZ (Poland) v ANDERLECHT (Belgium)
ST. ETIENNE or DYNAMO BERLIN v FC ZURICH (Switzerland)

FERENCVAROS (Hungary) v BANIK OSTRAVA (Czechoslovakia)

HIBERNIAN (Malta) v RED STAR BELGRADE (Yugoslavia)

OESTER VAEXJOE (Sweden) v BAYERN MUNICH (W. Germany)

CSKA SOFIA (Bulgaria) v REAL SOCIEDAD (Spain)
CRAIOVA (Romania) v OLYMPIAKOS (Greece)

BENFICA (Portugal) v OMONIA NICOSIA (Cyprus)
AUSTRIA VIENNA (Austria) v PARTIZAN TIRANA (Albania)

DYNAMO KIEV (USSR) v TRABZONSPOR (Turkey)
IK START (Norway) v AZ ALKMAAR (Holland)

ASTON VILLA v VALUR REKJAVIK (Iceland)
CELTIC v JUVENTUS (Italy)

OULON PALLOSEURA (Finland) v LIVERPOOL
NIEDERCORN (Luxembourg) v GLENTORAN (N. Ireland)

KB COPENHAGEN (Denmark) v ATHLONE TOWN (Eire)



In the next two 'Worldwide' we will be taking a look at the European Cup Winners Cup and the U.E.F.A. Cup.



PROFILE

The only blot on one of England's most promising careers came in the space of a few horrendous moments of the match against Switzerland in Basle earlier this summer when the host country scored two goals in double-quick time and sent their supporters delirious with excitement.

The aftermath of the collective responsibility for those two shock goals which put our World Cup qualification in dire jeopardy, was that goalkeeper Ray Clemence and centre-back Dave Watson kept their places — and left-back Kenny Sansom lost his — for the game against Hungary a week later.

It was a cruel twist of fate for the 22-year-old himself, more than perhaps he should have done for the way the Swis cut through our normally tight defence as if it didn't exist.

Manager Ron Greenwood took Sansom on one side to soften the blow of being dropped, and explained his valid reasons. In retrospect, it seems more certain than ever that Sansom — like so many of our overworked footballers — was the victim of sheer fatigue and a momentary lapse in concentration at the end of yet another exciting and long season.

But Sansom will be back. There are no fears of his absence from the team, and he will be a valuable asset. For the England defence back is one of the most exciting defenders to emerge in the past decade, and in my book is the best No.3 since the swift and sure Ray Wilson, who was a key member of our World Cup-winning side of 1966.

Cuts don't hand out £1 million in transfer fees without being pretty sure of their judgement. And you can be certain that Dave Watson, who has been a mainstay of the defence since he joined England '81 team, under Greenwood, weighed in with considerable expertise in terms of assessment before Terry Neal persuaded the young defender to move across London from Crystal Palace.

One million pounds for a full-back — — — sounds mind-boggling





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win the favor of it, but Arsenal saw the move in terms of consistency, brilliant work in the frame of their team effort on the part of Sansom, and all the evidence so far suggests that they were 100 per cent correct in their valuation.

It was a good idea, and one which helped bring about the transfer of the player for their fee from the other club, and the team of the eighth, to their willingness to part with their best players.

At Highbury, Sansom's partnership with Graham Rix, their left-sided look-man who took over a more responsible role when Liam Brady left for Italian soccer, has been one of the features of his development.

And there is no doubt that since he moved from Selhurst Park, he has improved his game considerably, and at 28 years of age, he is now one of the best players in the country, and he has the strict discipline of Howe, who demands just the same standards in training when nobody's watching as he does when the critical eyes of thousands are there on a Saturday afternoon.

Sansom put in 172 League appearances for Palace and scored three goals. With Arsenal, his readiness to attack should bring him a much bigger proportion of strikes from the back which will add to his goal-power.

He is a very fast player, and he is always active. But there is little doubt that before very long Sansom will have earned the right to take his place in the imposing list of superb left-backs who have worn the England No.3 shirt like Eddie Hapgood, Jack Aston, Billy Ecton and Ray Wilson.

DEREK HENDERSON.

Memory Lane

ENGLAND 4 WEST GERMANY 2

It needs an occasion of huge importance to bring the people of England together — the Royal Wedding was probably the last time — but on one hot July day in 1966 the eyes and the hopes of a nation were pinned to Wembley stadium.

England were playing old rivals West Germany for the right to call themselves world champions and, as the host nation, England were firm favourites to win the World Cup for the first time.

Yet West Germany were well-prepared and well-balanced and, having won their group without losing a game, they had advanced to the final with ominous ease beating Uruguay 4-0 in the quarter-final and Russia 2-1 in the semis.

The match itself was watched by a capacity 100,000 crowd and millions more on television around the world.

Geoff Hurst, a controversial mid-tournament replacement for the legendary Jimmy Greaves, and West Ham colleague Martin Peters scored early goals for England but there were heart-stopping equalisers from Helmut Haller and Wolfgang Weber.

The match went into extra time with the hot sun, better suited to cricket and tennis, and the unbearable tension beginning to take their toll of tired limbs.

Franz Beckenbauer, in those days the exciting young talent of the West German side, was beginning to exert his influences in midfield with the sort of touch and exquisite skills which were later to confirm him as one of the great talents of all time.

The last 30 minutes were going to be as tough an examination of stamina and determination as they were skill and ability.

Then came the turning point. Hurst swivelled sharply to slam a shot against the underside of the bar with goalkeeper Hans Tilkowski beaten.

"Goal", claimed the English as the ball bounced back into play. The West Germans were equally adamant: The whole of the ball had not crossed the line.

The referee went over to the Russian linesman. He held the key to the whole incident and, ultimately the destination of soccer's greatest prize.



Geoff Hurst

The linesman, looking for all the world like a latter day Rasputin, was positive. The ball had crossed the line and England were in the lead.

West Germany, hard as they tried, could not recover a third time and to rub salt in their wounds Hurst broke away in the dying seconds to shoot an unstoppable fourth.

Hurst had confounded his critics by scoring the final's first hat-trick and England were home.....the new World Cup champions.

ENGLAND: Benks, Cohen, Wilson, Stiles, J. Charlton, Moore, Ball, Hurst, Hunt, R. Charlton, Peters.

WEST GERMANY: Tilkowski, Hottges, Schulz, Weber, Schnellinger, Haller, Beckenbauer, Overath, Held, Seeler, Emmerich.

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12. Which English club holds the record for the highest score in an F.A. Cup tie.?
13. Who knocked Aston Villa out of the F.A. Cup last season?
14. Which Scottish club play at Tannadice Park?
15. Who is the only player ever to score a hat trick in a World Cup Final?
16. Who was the last First Division player to score more than 40 League goals in a season?
17. Who was the First Division's leading goalscorer last season?
18. Who play at Millmoor Ground?
19. In which country do F.C. Magdeburg play?
20. In which country do F.C. Beerschot play?

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No. 2



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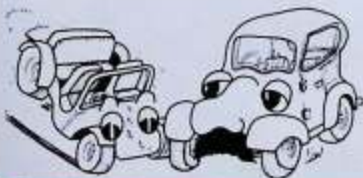
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Club Call... Club Call... Club Call... Club Call... Club Call... Club Call... C

Plymouth Argyle

New face heads Argyle Challenge

Bobby Moncur brings a whiff of Scotland to the West Country. Plymouth Argyle's 15th post-war manager and like all the rest, hopeful of sustaining a higher grade of League soccer to Home Park.

Two before him have striven valiantly to restore the Second Division status which Argyle won and then swiftly lost again under Tony Waiters' management. Both Malcolm Allison and Bobby Saxton have passed on to fresh pastures, leaving Moncur a task which every Argyle fan hopes he can quickly accomplish.

It was hardly surprising that the Scot — a man with a fine playing career behind him which saw him make over 300 League appearances for Newcastle in happier St James's Park times, and play 16 times for his country between 1968 and 1972 — should mouth the familiar phrases about potential and promise when he first arrived.

The supporters had heard it all before — and why not? Because it's true. There is the potential and the promise in this leading Devon stronghold of League soccer, but alas all too often it has escaped untapped.



The Plymouth Argyle First Team Squad 1981/82

Moncur didn't have too long to sort out a number of players' contractual problems in his opening weeks a long way from his last managerial job at Hearts, where he stayed only a relatively short while after holding the reins at Carlisle.

Out of it all he will be expected — almost as a right — to fashion a challenge to shake the Third Division dust off his players' boots, this time for a considerably longer spell than the meagre ration of two seasons after the high promise of Waiters' leadership.

As a manager he is in his early days, untried and unproved, you might say. Well, he has a challenge down in Plymouth, and no mistake. If he makes something of it, he will have gone a big way towards every manager's ambition of forging his way to the top.

The managers may change, the players come and go, but the hard core of Argyle support goes on, more often in hope than conviction that the next season will see it all come right. It all started so well last season, but like Cinderella at the ball, the image changed dramatically.

Even so, Argyle hauled themselves back into the fringe area of promotion, to finish with a home record which would have been good enough to take them up had their away results been better than just five wins and 21 goals to show from 23 matches.

Is it the old travelling problem? Who knows. Argyle finished seven points adrift of third-placed Charlton even though their final position of seventh looked respectable.

But Argyle followers are not looking for respectability — nothing short of being in the first three next May will be good enough. And that is how it should be — they should aim 100 per cent at nothing short.

Moncur knows it will be a long, hard slog. It is the biggest test of his life — and he is aware of it.



New Manager Bobby Moncur.

It's the old chicken-and-egg situation all over again. Which comes first — the support, or the results?



Embassy Slim Panatellas.
Cigars with a
distinctive character.

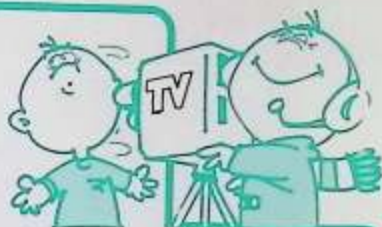


Embassy
Slim Panatellas



SIMON INGLIS

light hearted look at Football



Put your hands up if you think you know what's wrong with British football? Alright, alright, one at a time!

Violence on the terraces, did I hear someone say? Well, you've got a point. There was a day when I used to take my girlfriend to every home match, but the bad language and violence really reached a disgraceful level. The club had to ban her in the end!

Mind you, I've hardly seen or heard a spot of bother at my local ground for years, and attendances are still falling. Last season however saw a notable advance in crowd management, thanks entirely to the advances in technology.

Remember the Cup Winners' Cup match at West Ham, when earlier crowd disturbances caused the tie against Castile to be played behind closed doors?

Why not do that for every game?

The match could be relayed live to various points all over the country, to pubs, private homes, via cable T.V., cinemas, even drive-in ones.

You could have one venue put aside for the holligans, perhaps a bit of waste ground where they could feel free to throw objects, chant abuse and generally behave anti-socially.

There could be plush venues, with wine and food served during the game, and there'd be no need for any away supporters to travel.

Of course there would be a bunch of die-hards who would do everything to stop this kind of development happening. The type who might once have said the world is flat and man will never fly.

But we can't stop progress. Otherwise how would modern man have developed the means of destroying millions of people at the touch of a button? Now there's a point. Selective bombing of troublesome areas on the terraces, snipers to pick out the real thugs!

There is one slight problem though. Could we really guarantee total impartiality if the U.N. sent in troops to a local derby game?

Have a peaceful ninety minutes.

CUT'S CORNER



How many times must I tell you Patrick. When you're turling it's green side up.

EX-LEAGUE DATA

MIDDLESBROUGH IRONPOLIS

Complete League Record

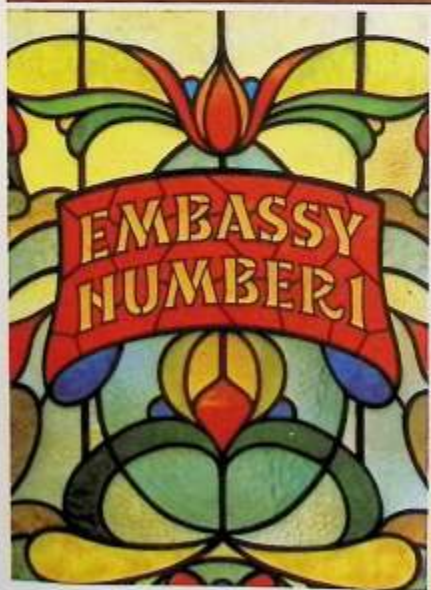
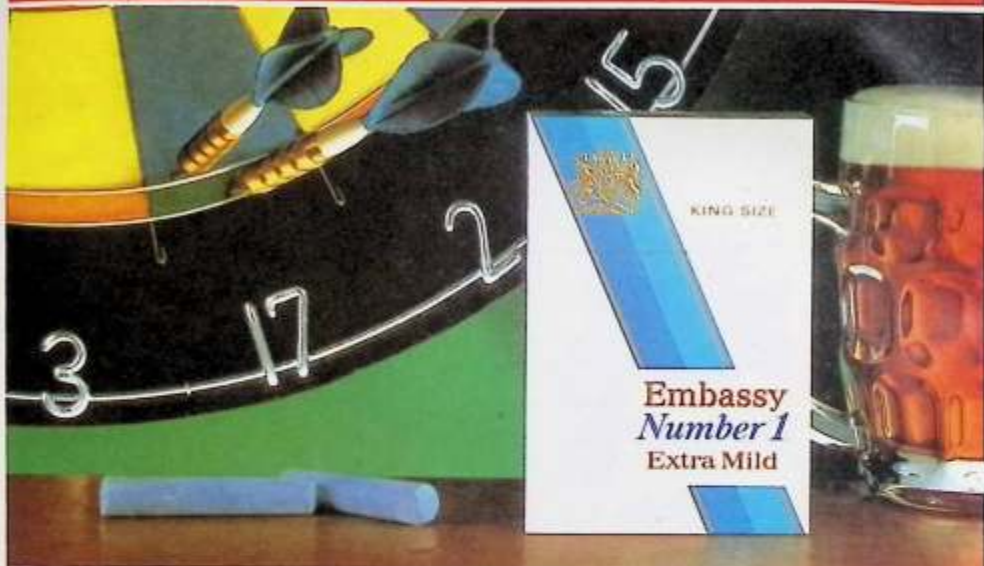
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Complete	28	8	4	16	37	72	20

Ironopolis were a separate footballing organisation, entirely to the Middlesbrough F.C. which are in existence today; they were founded in 1885 and played their pre-league football in the Northern League. The Cherry and White shirts of Ironopolis were champions in 1880-81, 1881-82, 1882-83 and were quarter finalists in the F.A. Cup in 1883 losing to Preston North End 7-0 in a replay at Deepdale after sharing four goals in the original home game. It was obviously with their impressive record in mind that they were considered for election to the league at the end of the 1882-83 season by the league's management committee. Accrington Stanley resigned before the new season opened and Bootle were not re-elected, but Division 2 was extended to 15 clubs by the election of Liverpool, Rotherham, Newcastle and Ironopolis.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool.....	28	22	6	0	77	18	50
Birmingham City.....	28	21	0	7	103	44	42
Notts County.....	28	18	3	7	70	31	38
Newcastle United.....	28	15	6	7	86	39	36
Grimsby Town.....	28	15	2	11	71	58	32
Grimsby United.....	28	14	3	11	79	81	31
Port Vale.....	28	13	4	11	66	64	29
Lincoln City.....	28	11	6	11	58	58	28
Accrington.....	28	12	4	12	52	56	28
Arsenal.....	28	10	3	15	51	81	23
Walsall.....	28	8	4	16	37	72	20
Middlesbrough Ironopolis.....	28	11	6	11	58	58	28
Crewe Alexandra.....	28	6	7	15	42	73	19
Manchester City.....	28	8	2	18	47	71	18
Rotherham United.....	28	6	3	19	44	81	15
Northwich Victoria.....	28	3	3	22	30	98	9

First ever league game (home) v. Liverpool 2-9 1883 lost 0-2.
Final league game (away) v. Burton United 17-2 1884 lost 0-7.

Embassy Number 1. Every time.



Embassy Number 1

Embassy Number 1 Extra Mild

MIDDLE TAR As defined in H.M. Government Tables **LOW TAR** As defined in H.M. Government Tables
DANGER: H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:
THINK FIRST - MOST DOCTORS DON'T SMOKE

COUNTY CAMERA SNAPSHOTS!



.....and the stories behind them

Photographs courtesy FLNP.

TOP LEFT

Tommy's missed penalty at Blackpool.

TOP RIGHT

Goekmouth action from Blackpool, as keeper Brian Lloyd punches clear.

MIDDLE LEFT

Tony Coyle about to head...

MIDDLE RIGHT

County into a 20 minute lead against Aldershot.

BOTTOM LEFT

New signing Mick Wardrobe fires at goal.

BOTTOM RIGHT

Oshor powers in County's fourth against a shaky Aldershot defence.

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FOURTH DIVISION RESULTS



So we're off and running on the marathon of another season, and for me the sparkling challenge of returning to my native north-west as successor to my good friend Gerald Sinstadt.

The details of my transfer from Yorkshire Television were finalised while I was away on a football tour in Florida, backing up the far greater on the field talents of Ian St John and Roger Hunt. Inevitably the pool-side chats turned to reminiscences about Liverpool, and both remarked that their days at Anfield had ended more quickly than they had expected. Now with the arrivals of Craig Johnston and Mark Lawrenson, and more than a passing interest in Tony Woodcock, Bob Paisley and company are again not waiting for the machine to run down before replacing certain parts. I believe that's been the key to their remarkable consistency.

Who would bet against Liverpool leading the area's challenge for honours once again. I know the

WITH GRANADA TV'S MARTIN TYLER

players desperately missed their lack of involvement in this year's Charity Shield.

One young Liverpoolian has already caught my eye this season. Wigan Athletic manager, Larry Lloyd, is predicting a great future for 19-year-old Mickey Quinn, a striker with the genuine hunger in the penalty area of a born goalscorer. Mickey, though, has had difficulties with a hunger of a different kind, that led last season to a weight problem. But I saw him, trim and sharp, give First Division defenders a real chasing in a pre-season workout against Swansea City.

I hope the praise he is currently receiving doesn't damage his progress. To be fair to young Mickey it's still perhaps a case of 'weight and see'!

By moving across the Pennines I've already been able to re-acquaint myself with a number of old friends from my Yorkshire days. Bury manager, Jim Hey, was a much underrated figure at Barnsley where he laid the foundation for that club's

recent successes under Allan Clarke and now Norman Hunter.

Checking on the team line-ups before commentaries at Rotherham in the days of Jimmy McGuigan was always a marvellously simple affair. It was invariably unchanged because of his belief in continuity, and Jim always had a canny sense that he is now showing in keeping Stockport County's head above water.

These days I'll have to get used to calling on George Mulhail to talk about Bolton Wanderers rather than Bradford City. George incidentally was 'capped' for our commentaries XI in Florida, while on a family holiday. I don't think he was too pleased, though, in temperatures of around 100°F, at being given a hard-running role at left back.

Finally I was particularly pleased that my pre-season research took me back to my roots in Chester. No new stand at Sealord Road, though, in my memories of the days when I watched a coltish Ron Davies take his first steps on the road to international recognition.

In the hurly-burly of a commentator's preparation I did allow myself a pause for a few nostalgic thoughts, all of which confirmed my delight to be back in the north-west for which I have such affection.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS



Jon
Hall

A temporary change of authorship for this column and the next two while our Publicity Officer, Allen Fitcroft, is honeymooning at an undisclosed location with his bride Sellyann. Our best wishes go to the newly married couple for many happy years.

It is less than three years since tonight's visitors, Wigan Athletic, paid their first visit to Edgeley Park for a

League fixture on Friday, November 3rd, 1978, but now we welcome them for a fifth time. To quote from last season's programme, "In spite of poor results, they are still one of the best-supported sides in the Fourth Division." The vibrant atmosphere in the ground when they play County is eagerly anticipated by home supporters.

What greater recognition could the first leg have had than to be graced with the presence of the Englad Manager, Ron Greenwood? We hope that he was impressed with what he saw. As the unnamed committee member mentioned in the last column as having had his picture in *Basler Zeitung* during England's summer visit, I can testify that on an off day England are as

frustrating to watch as any team.

Unfortunately, every County fan wishing to watch the match at Wigan was not able to do so. Our sympathy goes out to Chris Browne ('Minnie') in particular. Owing to the arrival of nearly a hundred ticketless travellers on the afternoon of Bank Holiday Monday, our provision of two coaches to meet an advance booking figure of 31 proved to be quite inadequate.

We've said it before, but we'll say it again: "BOOK EARLY!"

To encourage you to do so, Travel Secretary Martin Leah will be introducing a surcharge of 40p on tickets booked on Saturdays and Public Holidays. The Port Vale trip, leaving at 12.30, will cost £2.00 (£2.40 on the day) - Help us to help you!

EDGELEY DOSSIER ON.....

ANDY STAFFORD

BIRTHPLACE: Stretford
BIRTHDATE: 28.10.60
HEIGHT: 6' 1½"
WEIGHT: 11st 12lbs
MARRIED: No, but engaged to Carole
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Halifax Town
TEAM SUPPORTED AS A BOY: Manchester United
BEST GROUND PLAYED ON: Old Trafford and Roker Park
CHILDHOOD FOOTBALL HERO: George Best
BEST GAME PLAYED IN: Halifax v Manchester City 5.1.80
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Daily Express
HOBBIES: Playing golf
FOOTBALL SUPERSTITIONS: None
FAVOURITE COUNTRY VISITED: Spain
THE WAY I RELAX: Going out for a drink
BEST GOAL SCORED: For Halifax against Rochdale 18.9.79
FAVOURITE COLOUR: Blue
THING I LIKE MOST ABOUT FOOTBALL: Scoring goals
FAVOURITE CURRENT FOOTBALLER: Peter Barnes

Autograph

Andy Stafford



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	Geoff Platt			Mr. H. Jones		

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MATCH REFEREE

DEREK CIVIL (Birmingham)
Began refereeing in 1955 and after spells officiating in the Worcestershire Combination, and the Football Combination he progressed to full League status. Last took charge at Edgeley Park for the Football League Cup tie with Crystal Palace in September '79. Ran the line during the Scotland v Switzerland international at Hampden Park in April '76. A married man with two sons, Mr. Civil's out of Football occupation is in the printing trade.



LANCS LEAGUE SCENE

DIVISION ONE FIXTURES SEASON 1981-82

Sat.	Aug. 29	Morecambe Reserves (Moloney 2, Power)	F-A
Sat.	Sep. 5	Wrexham 'A' (Power, Smith)	3-2
FRI.	SEP. 11	PORT VALE RESERVES	2-3
Sat.	Sep. 19	Tranmere Rovers 'A'	
FRI.	SEP. 25	MANCHESTER UNITED 'A'	
Sat.	Oct. 3	Port Vale Reserves	
FRI.	OCT. 9	OLDHAM ATHLETIC RESERVES	
FRI.	OCT. 23	CARLISLE UNITED RESERVES	
Sat.	Oct. 31	Barrow Reserves	
FRI.	NOV. 8	ROCHDALE RESERVES	
Sat.	Nov. 14	Rochdale Reserves	
Sat.	Nov. 28	Wigan Athletic Reserves	
FRI.	DEC. 4	BOLTON WANDERERS 'A'	
FRI.	DEC. 18	TRANMERE ROVERS 'A'	
MON.	DEC. 28	LIVERPOOL 'A'	
1982			
FRI.	JAN. 8	WREXHAM 'A'	
Sat.	Jan. 16	Oldham Athletic Reserves	
FRI.	JAN. 29	ALTRINCHAM RESERVES	
Sat.	Feb. 6	Manchester United 'A'	
FRI.	FEB. 12	MORECAMBE RESERVES	
Sat.	Feb. 20	Bolton Wanderers 'A'	
Sat.	Feb. 27	Chester 'A'	
FRI.	MAR. 6	BARROW RESERVES	
Sat.	Mar. 13	Carlisle United Reserves	
FRI.	MAR. 19	CHORLEY RESERVES	
FRI.	APR. 2	EVERTON 'A'	
Sat.	Apr. 10	Everton 'A'	
Sat.	Apr. 17	Liverpool 'A'	
FRI.	APR. 23	CHESTER 'A'	
Sat.	May 1	Altrincham Reserves	
FRI.	MAY 7	WIGAN ATHLETIC RESERVES	
Sat.	May 15	Chorley Reserves	

Home Matches in capitals.

TEAM CHECK

STOCKPORT COUNTY (Sky Blue/White/Black)

- 1 BRIAN LLOYD
- 2 JOHN RUTTER
- 3 STEVE SHERLOCK
- 4 MARTIN FOWLER
- 5 ANDY THORPE
- 6 STEVE UZELAC
- 7 OSHOR WILLIAMS
- 8 MICK WARDROBE
- 9 TONY COYLE
- 10 TERRY PARK
- 11 ANDY STAFFORD
- 12

WIGAN ATHLETIC

(Red/Red)

- 1 JOHN BROWN
- 2 JOHN McMAHON
- 3 DAVID GLENN
- 4 ALEX CRIBLEY
- 5 LARRY LLOYD
- 6 COLIN METHVEN
- 7 KEVIN SHELDON
- 8 GRAHAM BARROW
- 9 PETER HOUGHTON
- 10 MIKE QUINN
- 11 CLIVE EVANS
- 12 JEFF WRIGHT

Subject to alteration

OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

MR. D.W. CIVIL (Birmingham)

LINESMEN:

MR. M.J. CARTER (Stoke) — Red
Flag, MR. G.M. McMANUS (Conngh's
Quay) Yellow Flag.

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COUNTY FACTFINDER

Result: County Visitors

County scorers

Visitors scorers

Half-time score:

Attendance:

Bookings:

Man of the Match:

Substitutions:

Notes:

WHERE THEY WERE SCORED!

	County	Visitors
CHEADLE END		
RAILWAY END		

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